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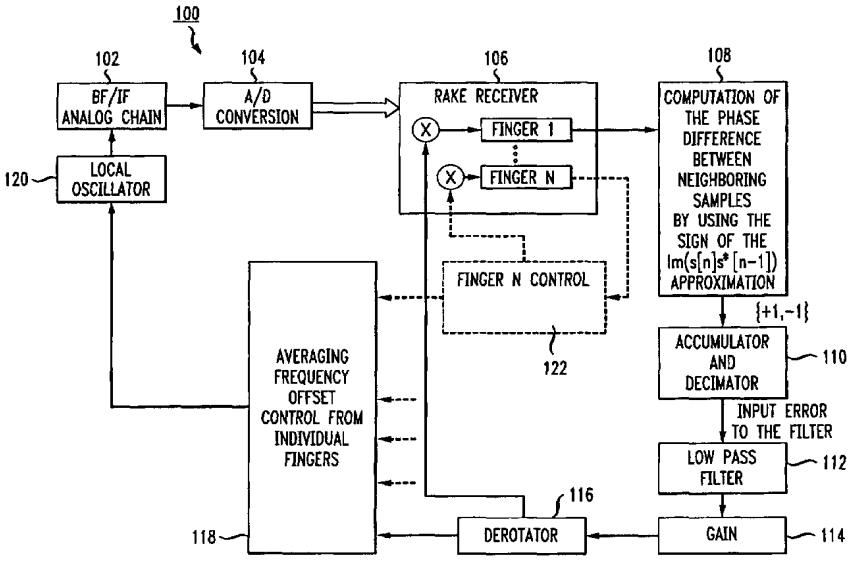
(54) **Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ROBUST AUTOMATIC FREQUENCY CONTROL IN CDMA SYSTEMS WITH CONSTANT PILOT SIGNALS



(57) **Abstract:** There is provided a method for generating an error signal for an automatic frequency control (AFC) loop in a Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) system. Sign information relating to phase differences in received pilot signals is accumulated. In one embodiment, the accumulated sign information is compared against predetermined threshold levels. The error signal is generated when at least one of the predetermined threshold levels is satisfied. In a second embodiment, the accumulated sign information is decimated. An output of the decimating step is utilized as the error signal for the AFC loop.

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